

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRICARE DRG CALCULATOR

To determine the TRICARE DRG payment, complete the yellow highlighted fields for your hospital.

Billed Charges - Enter total billed charges for the claim.

LOS - Enter the patient's length of stay. To determine the Short Stay Outlier Payment, enter the Short LOS Threshold that is noted in the Output field for the DRG in question.

DRG - Enter the DRG Number – the calculator automatically applies the DRG weight.

Discharge Status - Enter the discharge status.

of Interns & Residents - Only applies to teaching hospitals – No need to populate this field if you have the IDME Factor override from the Wage Index and IDME File on TRICARE's DRG web page. If your hospital is not a teaching hospital, this field can be left blank.

of Beds - Only applies to teaching hospitals – No need to populate this field if you have the IDME Factor override from the Wage Index and IDME File from TRICARE's DRG web page. If your hospital is not a teaching hospital, this field can be left blank.

IDME Factor (override) - Only applies to teaching hospitals - To locate the IDME Factor for your hospital, access the Wage Index and IDME File on TRICARE's DRG web page. Locate your hospital in the file and note the IDME factor (last column in the file for FY 2006). Example: If the IDME factor is 543, you would enter it as .0543 in the calculator. If the IDME factor is 2218, you would enter it as .2218.

Wage Index - To locate the hospital's wage index, access the Wage Index and IDME File on TRICARE's DRG web page. Locate your hospital in the file and note the wage index (second to last column in the file for FY 2006). Example: If the wage index is listed as 9294, you would enter it as .9294 in the calculator. If the wage index is listed as 10928, you would enter it as 1.0928. If a hospital is not listed in the Wage Index and IDME File, then use the ZIP to wage index file (also on TRICARE's DRG web page) to locate the wage index for your hospital by entering in the ZIP of the hospital.

Below the Claim information on the Calculator is the Payment Details that explains the formulas used to arrive at the DRG payment amount.

The DRG Calculator does not take into account cost-shares/co-payments, other health insurance payments or negotiated rate agreements between hospitals and the managed care support contractors.

Questions regarding payment of specific claims under the TRICARE DRG-based payment system should be addressed to the appropriate regional contractor.